26

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for conducting a conference call between two or more participants, comprising:

receiving an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call;

in response to the indication from the participant, converting any speech of the other participants of the conference call into text; and

sending the text to a device associated with the participant from which the indication of a request for text was received, the device operable to display the text.

2. The method of Claim 1, and further comprising sending the identity of each participant of the conference call to the device, wherein the identity is associated with the text associated with the speech of each participant.

3. The method of Claim 1, and further comprising encrypting the text.

4. The method of Claim 1, and further comprising sending to the device the speech corresponding to the text.

5. The method of Claim 4, wherein the text comprises a timestamp, the timestamp associating the text with the speech corresponding to the text.

6.   The method of Claim 1, and further comprising recording the text at the device.

7.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant placing the conference call on hold.

8.   The method of claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant muting the call.

9.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a button is depressed on a telephone associated with the participant requesting text.

10.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a soft key associated with the participant requesting text is depressed.

11.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that the participant requesting text is suppressing transmission of voice media packets to the participant requesting text.

12.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that the participant requesting text is suppressing transmission of voice media packets from the participant requesting text.

13.   The method of Claim 1, and further comprising converting any speech of the participant requesting text into text.

14.   The method of Claim 1, and further comprising alerting the participant requesting text that a specific one of the other participants is speaking.

15. A method for conducting a conference call with a plurality of participants, comprising:

determining the identity of each participant providing input to the conference call;

5   receiving an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call; and

in response to receiving the indication of a request for text from the participant, sending the identity of each other participant of the conference call, when the 10 respective other participant is speaking, to a device associated with the participant from which the indication of a request for text was received, the device operable to display the identity of each participant.

15   16. The method of Claim 15, and further comprising converting, in response to the indication of a request for text, any speech of each other participant of the conference call into text and sending the text to the device, the text associated with the identity of each 20 participant.

17. The method of Claim 16, and further comprising encrypting the text.

25   18. The method of Claim 16, and further comprising sending to the device the speech associated with the text.

19. The method of Claim 18, wherein the text 30 comprises a timestamp, the timestamp associating the text with the speech corresponding to the text.

20. The method of Claim 19, and further comprising recording the text and the speech corresponding to the text at the device.

5

21. The method of Claim 20, wherein recording the text and speech comprises recording the speech and text at the device.

10
22. The method of Claim 20, wherein recording the text and speech comprises recording the speech and text within a central storage unit attached to the network.

23. The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication
15 of a request for text is received in response to a participant placing the conference call on hold.

24. The method of claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a
20 participant muting the call.

25. The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a button is depressed on a telephone associated with the
25 participant requesting text.

26. The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a soft key associated with the participant requesting text is
30 depressed.

27. The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that the participant requesting text is suppressing transmission of voice media packets to the participant requesting text.

28. The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that the participant requesting text is suppressing transmission of voice media packets from the participant requesting text.

29. The method of Claim 15, and further comprising sending the identity of the participant requesting text, when the participant requesting test is speaking, to the device.

30. A system for conducting a conference call with a plurality of participants, comprising:

a conference bridge operable to receive an indication of a request for text from at least one of the participants, and in response to the indication, send text that represents speech of one or more of the participants to the participant who requested text; and

a speech-to-text engine coupled to the conference bridge, the engine operable to convert the speech of the one or more participants into the text and send the text to the conference bridge.

31. The system of Claim 30, wherein the conference bridge is operable to determine an identity of each participant of the conference call and send the identity to the participant making the request for text, each identity associated with the corresponding text that represents the speech of each participant.

32. The system of Claim 30, and further comprising an encryption engine coupled to the conference bridge.

33. The system of Claim 30, wherein the conference bridge is operable to send the speech of each participant, with the text, to the participant who requested text.

34. The system of Claim 33, wherein the conference bridge is operable to couple a timestamp with the text, then send the text to the participant who requested text, the timestamp associating the text with the speech corresponding to the text.

35. The system of Claim 30, and further comprising a device associated with the participant, the device comprising a storage media.

36. The system of Claim 35, wherein the device is a text display screen coupled to an Internet Protocol phone.

37. The system of Claim 35, wherein the device is a computer.

38. The system of Claim 30, wherein the indication of a request for text from at least one of the participants further indicates that the participant is suppressing transmission of voice media packets to the participant.

39. The system of Claim 30, wherein the conference bridge and the speech-to-text engine are each operable to be responsive to a concurrent reservation request.

40. A system for conducting a conference call, comprising:

a conference management means for receiving an indication of a request for text from at least one participant, and in response to the indication, sending text that represents speech of each participant to the participant who requested text; and

a speech-to-text conversion means coupled to the conference bridge, the speech-to-text conversion means for converting the speech of each participant into the text and sending the text to the conference management means.

41. The system of Claim 38, and further comprising a means for associating an identity of each participant of the conference call with each participant's input to the conference call, and coupling the identity to the corresponding text, the means coupled to the conference management means.

42. The system of Claim 38, and further comprising a communication means for listening to the speech, the communication means coupled to the display means.

43. The system of Claim 38, wherein the conference management means is also for transmitting the speech to the communication means.

44. The system of Claim 41, wherein the conference management means is also for coupling a timestamp with the text, then transmitting the text to the display means, the timestamp associating the text with the speech corresponding to the text.

45. The system of Claim 42, and further comprising a storage means for recording the text and the speech, the storage means coupled to the communication means.

46. The system of Claim 38, wherein the indication of a request for text from at least one of the participants further indicates that the participant is suppressing transmission of voice media packets to the participant.

36

47. A method for displaying information comprising:

transmitting a request for data from an Internet Protocol telephone attached to a network and having a first address; and

5   receiving data at an Internet Protocol display attached to the network and having a second address different from the first address in response to the transmitted request.

10   48. The method of Claim 47, wherein the data comprises text.

49. The method of Claim 47, and further comprising associating the Internet Protocol telephone with the
15   Internet Protocol display.

50. The method of Claim 49, wherein the associating comprises associating the Internet Protocol telephone with the Internet Protocol display by a system directory
20   attached to the network.

51. A method for conducting a conference call between two or more participants, comprising:

receiving, at a telephone, an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call using the telephone;

in response to the indication, automatically transmitting from the telephone to a speech-to-text engine any speech received at the phone; and

receiving at the telephone from the speech-to-text engine text indicative of the received speech.

52. The method of Claim 51, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant placing the conference call on hold.

53. The method of claim 51, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant muting the call.

54. The method of Claim 51, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a button is depressed on a telephone associated with the participant requesting text.

55. The method of Claim 51, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a soft key associated with the participant requesting text is depressed.